

Reports for INF5200 CSCW 2011

1. Report about experiences using computer support for cooperative work.

The task for the report is to reflect on your experiences using a computer tool for cooperative work producing a paper or report. If you have such experience you can reflect on it individually, if not I suggest that you cooperate with another student about writing the report together as you use the tool to write the report.

Writing the report will encourage you to reflect on your own experiences of using cscw. The report should be ½ - 2 pages.

Email it to tone@ifi.uio.no before Tuesday 1. March.

2. Report about conceptual understandings of cscw

The report is aimed at developing and demonstrating your understanding and knowledge of issues discussed in the CSCW literature. The writing can be done collaboratively in groups of 2-3 (recommended) or individually. You can choose between three different report types:

- 1) theoretical. Compare two theories from the INF5200 syllabus with respect to cscw: how can we understand cscw from different theoretical perspectives? Examples of theories are Strauss' theory of work, Actor-Network Theory, Activity Theory and Structuration Theory ...
- 2) practical. Apply concepts from the INF5200 literature to analyze an application that supports cooperation, a tool you have used yourself or tools like e.g. google groups, a wiki, second life, face book (are they cscw applications?)
- 3) fieldwork. Carry out an empirical study (e.g. study a work place using applications to support cooperation or a public place (e.g. Blindern Station as a space for cscw). You can also act as cscw-designers designing a workspace for your fellow students in INF5200 or in the study program you are attending.

Writing the report will help you prepare for the kinds of discussion and argumentation you are expected to present in the exam. Hints:

- be clear about the type of report (theoretical, practical, empirical)
- which issues do you investigate?
- what is cscw and how is your topic of investigation relevant to cscw?
- why you chose the conceptual framework / theory

When reading your report we will evaluate:

- quality of discussion and reflection, ie. your line of argument
- effective use of literature and/or empirical data, i.e. that quotations and empirical "evidence" are used to prove your point
- clear and logical presentation and organization of your argument
- quality of presentation, i.e. spelling, referencing etc.

The report should be 10-15 pages (including table of content and list of references, excl. appendix). Readable font (e.g. Times New Roman 12, 1.5 space)

Email it to tone@ifi.uio.no before Tuesday 1. June. You should hand in a draft before 5. April, and prepare to present you main conclusions in class as a part of the summary session on 31. May.